

Appl. No. 10/727,924
Examiner: GARCIA, JOANNIE A, Art Unit 2823
In response to the Office Action dated January 21, 2005

Date: April 20, 2005
Attorney Docket No. 10113321

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached seven (7) sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1c, 1d, 2b-2g, and 2i-i2k. Replacement Sheet 1 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 1c and 1d, Replacement Sheet 2 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 2a and 2b, Replacement Sheet 3 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 2c and 2d, Replacement Sheet 4 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 2e and 2f, Replacement Sheet 5 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 2g and 2h, Replacement Sheet 6 replaces the original sheet for Figs. 2i and 2j, and Replacement Sheet 7 replaces the original sheet for Fig. 2k, in which the drawings are amended to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner in the office action dated January 21, 2005.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (7)

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REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Responsive to the Office Action mailed on January 21, 2005 in the above-referenced application, Applicant respectfully requests amendment of the above-identified application in the manner identified above and that the patent be granted in view of the arguments presented. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Present Status of Application

Claims 1-24 are pending. The disclosure is objected to because of informalities. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4). Claims 1-24 are objected to for informalities, but are indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections.

In this paper, the drawings are amended to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner in the office action. The disclosure is amended to correct the informalities therein. Claims 1, 2, 11, 14, and 23 are amended according to the suggestion of the Examiner. Claim 3 is amended to directly depend from amended claim 2.

Claims 6 and 20 are amended to add the limitation "wherein the third hard mask layer and the second hard mask layer are the same material". Support can be found on page 8, line 30 to page 9, line 1 of the specification.

Claims 12, 13, and 15 are amended to provide antecedent bases for "width of the second opening" in claim 12, "width of the salient of the first hard mask layer" in claim 13, and "geometric deep trench" in claim 15.

The examiner has indicated that claims 1-24 would be allowable if amended to overcome the objections set forth in the office action. Insofar as the applicant has amended the claims according to the suggestions of the Examiner, it is Applicant's belief that claims 1-24 are now in condition for allowance.

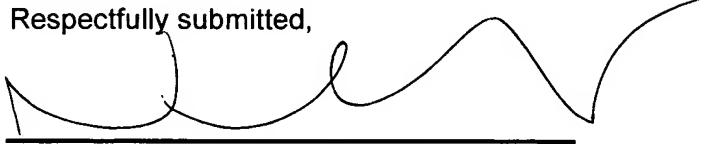
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Conclusion

The Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests so.

Respectfully submitted,



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